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The insect is common in Europe and attacks the European elms, but much less seldom our native *Ulmus Americana*. Whether there is any remarkable significance in the close resemblance of the insect larvae to the fruit of certain lichens common to the elm I am not able to say. The close resemblance nevertheless suggests mimicry.

MASSACHUSETTS AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

## Two Nuttallian Species of *Oxalis*.

By JOHN K. SMALL.

In the earlier part of this century Mr. Nuttall collected two species of *Oxalis* on the Pacific slope; the one he secured in Oregon, the other in California. The collector sent descriptions of his two new species to Torrey and Gray while they were publishing their *Flora of North America*. The descriptions were accompanied by specimens which are now preserved in the Herbarium of Columbia University.

Torrey and Gray reduced both the species to *Oxalis corniculata*\* and printed Mr. Nuttall's descriptions in a foot-note and thus the two plants for many years, and one to the present time, remained without further recognition.

The first of the two species described was *Oxalis pumila*.† It was said to occur in "Forests of the Rocky Mountains and Oregon." The original specimen I have to refer to is from Oregon, and consists of two plants, the one in flower the other in fruit. This form was later described by Professor Trelease as *Oxalis Suksdorfii*,‡ which name may stand on account of the earlier described *Oxalis pumila*,§ of D'Urville. The ample supply of *Oxalis Suksdorfii* which we now have from Oregon, agrees in all details with Mr. Nuttall's original specimens of *Oxalis pumila*. In addition to our material from Oregon, I find two specimens from California; they were collected many years ago and sent to Dr. Torrey. The

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\* Fl. N. A. 1 : 212.

† T. and G. Fl. N. A. 1 : 212.

‡ Mem. Bost. Soc. Nat. Hist. 4 : 89.

§ Mem. Soc. Linn. Par. 4 : 616. 1826.

record accompanying one is simply "California, Rev. A. Fitch," while the other was collected by Dr. Parry when on the Mexican Boundary Survey, "between 32° and 36° N. Lat., and 114°-121° W. Long."

Professor Trelease referred with some doubt, both the original specimens of Mr. Nuttall and the later ones from California to his *Oxalis corniculata* var. (?) *macrantha*,\* which position, in the light of recent material and our present knowledge of geographic distribution, cannot be maintained. The species is beautifully distinct, and in addition to other characters, the pod is diagnostic, as Mr. Nuttall intimates,† differing from that of all other relatives in its short conic form. As descriptions of the plant are not easy of access I append the following:

*OXALIS SUKSDORFII* Trelease, Mem. Bost. Soc. Nat. Hist. 4: 89. 1888.

*Oxalis pumila* Nutt. ; T. & G. Fl. N. A. 1: 212, 183. Not D'Urv. 1826.

Perennial by a slender horizontal or creeping woody rootstock, caulescent, low and bushy or much elongated, somewhat pilose or sparingly villous. Stems ascending or decumbent, .5-4 dm. long, simple or nearly so; leaves palmately 3-foliolate, 2-3 cm. broad, usually glabrate except the ciliate edge; petioles slender, 3-8 cm. long; stipules obsolete, or a narrow dilation; leaflets broader than long, sharply notched, the lobes usually unequal, ciliate; peduncles usually surpassing the leaves; pedicels forming umbellate cymes, commonly 2, subtended by linear-subulate bracts; flowers usually bright yellow, about 2 cm. broad; sepals oblong or oblong-lanceolate, 4-5 mm. long, obtuse, villous, erect or ascending; petals obovate, 12-15 mm. long, undulate; filaments pilose; capsule conic, 8-11 mm. long, about twice as long as the sepals, usually pubescent; seed oval in outline, nearly 2.5 mm. long, its tubercles almost united into continuous transverse ridges.

Oregon and California.

The second species described by Mr. Nuttall in this connection, under the name *Oxalis pilosa* is just as worthy of specific rank as *Oxalis Suksdorfii*. It is apparently rarer; however the scarcity of it in our herbaria may be due to the fact that some collectors are inclined to pass by apparently well-known species in the field. The history of this species is shorter than that of *Oxalis*

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\* Mem. Bost. Soc. Nat. Hist. 4: 88.

† T. & G. Fl. N. A. 1: 212.

*Suksdorfii*; it begins with the original description\* and ends with its union to *Oxalis corniculata* var. (?) *macrantha*,† as in the case of its sister species.

Mr. Nuttall collected his type in "Woods around St. Barbara, California," as is shown by his description and the label accompanying the type. The original specimen is sufficient to mark it as a very distinct species, and to support this I found an ample specimen preserved in the Torrey herbarium, which agrees with Nuttall's type in every particular. This second specimen consists of two plants which were collected in the "Valley of the Sacramento, California," by Dr. Stillman.

The gross characters which separate *Oxalis pilosa* from *Oxalis Suksdorfii* are habit, the densely pale pilose pubescence found on the stems, petioles, peduncles and pedicels, and the longer columnar pods. The species doubtless occurs in many herbaria. I give the following description :

OXALIS PILOSA Nutt.; T. & G. Fl. N. A. 1: 212. 1838.

Perennial by a woody base, caulescent, stoutish, densely pilose throughout, pale green. Stem erect, ascending, or decumbent, 1-3 dm. long, usually simple, woody below; leaves peltately 3-foliate, 1-2 cm. broad, pilose on both sides; petioles slender, 2-6 cm. long, with narrow dilated stipules; leaflets mostly broader than long, sharply notched at the apex, ciliate, the lobes equal or nearly so; peduncles stoutish, surpassing the subtending leaves, topped by 1-3 umbellate-cymose pedicels which are subtended by linear-subulate bracts; flowers yellow, nearly 2 cm. broad, rarely solitary; sepals ovate-lanceolate or oblong-lanceolate, 4-5 mm. long, obtuse, pilose; petals obovate, notched, 12-15 mm. long; filaments pilose; capsule columnar, 1.4-1.7 cm. long, abruptly pointed, tipped by the spreading style-tips, clothed by a minute gray pubescence, commonly longer than the reflexed pedicels; seed obovoid, 1.5 mm. long, marked with slightly interrupted transverse ridges.

California, from the Valley of the Sacramento to Santa Barbara.

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\* T. & G. Fl. N. A. 1: 212.

† Mem. Bot. Soc. Nat. Hist. 4: 88.